



PATENT

1648

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Shah, et al.

Serial No.: 09/891,983

Filed: June 26, 2001

For: METHODS FOR THE SIMULTANEOUS DETECTION OF HCV ANTIGENS AND HCV ANTIBODIES

Case No.: 6821.US.01

Examiner: D. Wortman

Group Art Unit: 1648

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 CFR 1.8(a))

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the:

Commissioner for Patents Washington D.C. 20231

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Date of Deposit: 8-14-02

Kimberly A. Lorio

Kimberly A. Lorio Date

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TRANSMITTAL LETTER

AUG 21 2002

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Commissioner for Patents Washington D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Enclosed herewith for the patent application identified above entitled METHODS FOR THE SIMULTANEOUS DETECTION OF HCV ANTIGENS AND HCV ANTIBODIES are the following:

- 1. Response to Restriction Requirement (1 page); and
- 2. Return Receipt Postcard.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional Filing Fees required under 37 CFR §1.16, as well as any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR §1.17 associated with this communication for which full payment had not been tendered, to Deposit Account No. 01-0025. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.



23492

ABBOTT LABORATORIES Telephone: (847) 935-1729 Facsimile: (847) 938-2623

Respectfully submitted, Shah, et al.

Cheryl L. Becker Registration No. 35,441 Attorney for Applicants



#15 9/6/02

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**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the restriction requirement contained in the Office Action of July 18, 2002, Applicants respectfully elect Group I (i.e., Claims 1-17 and 22), with traverse.

Further, Applicants reserve the right to file divisional applications in the future in connection with the non-elected groups.

Should the Examiner have any questions concerning this matter, she is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.



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Respectfully submitted,  
Shah, et al.

*Cheryl L. Becker*  
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Registration No. 35,441  
Attorney for Applicants